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THE SIXTH SEMI-ANNUAL AMERICAN FURNITURE MANUFACTURERS' EXPOSITION.



THE Sixth Semi-Annual Exposition of the American Furniture Manufacturers will be held in the New York Industrial Building, beginning January 5th and ending February 3rd, 1894, inclusive.

The plan of holding semi-annual exhibitions of furniture has passed from the experimental stage, and now rests upon a permanent basis. Certainly the idea is a great step in advance of the old method of showing and selecting goods from photographs. It enables both the manufacturer and the retailer to come in close touch together, to com-

pare notes regarding the qualities or defects in the pieces of furniture; it enables the manufacturer, by coming in personal contact with the retailer, to decide which of his pieces are likely to be sellers, and also gives him an idea of how much he should make up for the season's trade. It gives the retailer the best opportunity to compare the different manufacturers' prices and quality of workmanship. He has his object lesson before him, and if he knows his business, he cannot go far wrong in the selection of what is most suitable for his trade. It is a good thing for all concerned, being beneficial and instructive alike to both the manufacturer and retailer.

The season has again arrived when the buyer is an all important personage, and there is no readier way of securing his attention than by furnishing him, under one roof, the greatest possible diversity of the latest and most salable goods. The furniture trade has been quiet for some months past, and retail stocks are light, and now that the year 1893 is a thing of the past, let us hope that the commercial depression that prevailed all over the country during the year that has flown, will take its departure with the year itself. There is undoubtedly a brighter outlook for trade of all descriptions in the present year, and the American Furniture Manufacturers who will exhibit their new season's goods at the forthcoming exposition, will thus prove their confidence in the future of the furniture industry, and by doing so put themselves in a prime position to become partakers of its new development.

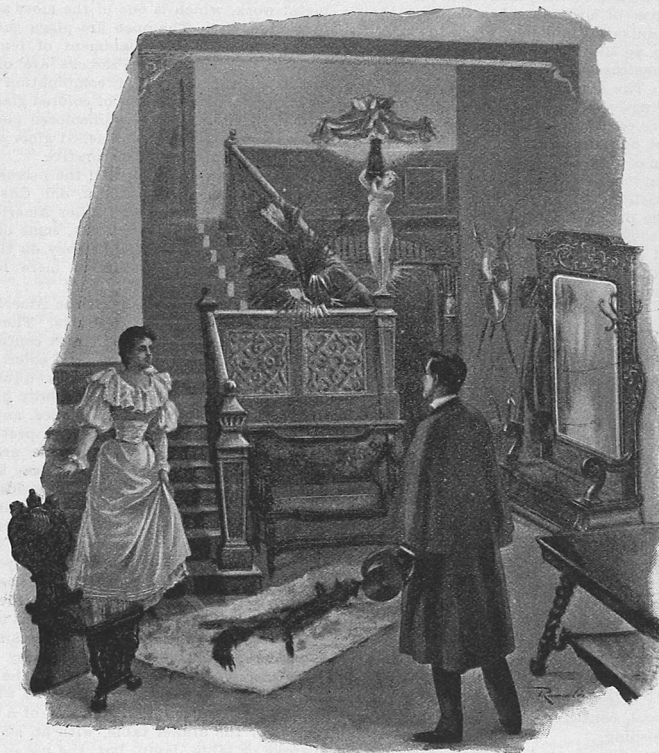
To give an indication of the styles of goods to be exhibited, we present on the present page an entrance hall, furnished with all the requirements of complete yet not too expensive appointments. The settle and carved chair are from the line of C. H.

Medicus & Co., of Brooklyn, N. Y. They have produced a magnificent line of hall settles and chairs for the coming season's trade, and are prepared to prove that they are fairly up to the times as regards style and prices. The hatrack is one of the most successful patterns made by the F. Wenter Co., of Chicago, Ill. This concern makes one of the largest line of hatracks in the trade, having a wide range of values, and each one of artistic and selling merit. The table is by the Andrew Homan Co., of New York, who make a specialty of this class of tables, and produce a large line, which will be shown in their exhibit.

On page 127 we give an illustration of a Colonial dining room. The Colonial style is one that is happily adapted to the requirements of the dining room. The interior illustrated exhibits in every detail furniture exquisitely adapted to modern dining room requirements. There are illustrated a sideboard, china closet, buffet and table, from the Lewis Porter Cabinet Co., of Indianapolis, Ind., who make a specialty of the highest quality of dining room furniture, and produce many excellent

patterns. The sideboard reproduced here is a perfect reproduction, excepting the top, of an old Colonial sideboard discovered in Newark, N. J., by Mr. Porter, which has a well authenticated history of over a hundred years. The other pieces have been made to match it, and the set has been one of the most successful patterns in his large line. The chairs used to complete the room are made by Watson & Karsch, of New York, and they, too, are copies of an old Colonial chair in the possession of Mr. Watson, of this firm, and which is known to be over 80 years old. The same pattern was furnished by the manufacturers, through Mr. E. H. Jennings, of Buffalo, for President Cleveland, when he furnished his home in New York. They were selected by Mrs. Cleveland, and one armchair had to be made 4 inches larger, for Mr. Cleveland. They are made, as is the rest of the suite, of mahogany, and have the rush seats now so popular in this firm's line, and they are a perfect match for the rest of the pieces in the room.

We are indebted to the *Furniture Magazine* for the illustrations here presented.



AN ENTRANCE HALL.

SETTLE AND CHAIR BY C. H. MEDICUS & CO., BROOKLYN. HAT RACK BY THE F. WENTER CO., CHICAGO.
TABLE BY ANDREW HOMAN CO., NEW YORK.

DECORATIVE NOTE.

WITH all the many improvements in our ways and means of living brought in with the *fin de siècle*, there is nothing that would be more conducive to domestic comfort and peace of mind than the doing away in our homes with that modern absurdity, the misnamed "tidy." There is probably no article in the entire list of housekeeping items which causes so much discomfort as the tidy. It is a very bone of contention, and has been more times than a few the cause of heart-rending

THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

family quarrels. Nay, it is easy to imagine it the serpent in paradise, the destroyer of firesides. No article of the house furnishing is dearer to a woman's heart than the anti-macassar, and on the other hand nothing is so generally despised and rejected by men. To the masculine mind a chair's mission in life is to be sat upon; the feminine idea is that it is an exhibition frame for fancy work. Here begins often the first fatal difference of opinion. Nine men out of ten when they sit down in a befurbelowed chair either rise with the hated drapery firmly

for his awkwardness, and the fatal time comes when he does not care. He then no longer watches with delight the soft, fair fingers at the piece of embroidery as in his bachelor days. He knows it for his undoing and shudders at the prospect of again perjuring his immortal soul in pretended admiration. Tears for his unkindness perhaps succeed wrath at his contumacy, and lo! the apple of discord comes rolling in over the threshold. To the average man the terrors of house-cleaning are to a degree mitigated by the fact that then, at least, though the floors be



A COLONIAL DINING-ROOM.

SIDEBOARD, CHINA CLOSET, TABLE AND BUFFET, BY LEWIS PORTER CABINET CO., INDIANAPOLIS. CHAIRS BY THE WATSON & KARSCH MFG. CO., NEW YORK.

glued to the backs of their coats or else leave the precious frippery a hopelessly wrecked mass of creases and mussiness. Wary, too, must he be who escapes the stab of the patent fastener. A parlor full of portières, lamp shades, curtains, chair backs and screens, easel, picture and piano draperies, with every piece of furniture covered with senseless bits of muslin, lace and worsted work, is a terror to the man who enters it, especially if he be a stranger. In his own home he grows hardened to reproaches

bare he may sit on a tidiless chair, lounge on an undraped sofa, or stretch at ease on a shameless bed.

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